MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*) : Is not the Koran taught in all primary schools ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) : Yes, in all schools in which there is a sufficient number of Muslim children.

Marma Vaidyasala at Kattathura.

240. ✻ **MR. M. MAHOMED HANEEF** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the year when grant-in-aid was given to the Marma Vaidyasala at Kattathura ;

(*b*) whether it is not the first of the Marma Vaidyasals in the State ;

(*c*) whether there is any other grant-in-aid Marma Vaidyasala in the State, and, if so, how many ;

(*d*) whether the Kattathura Marma Vaidyasala was at any time recommended to be raised into a grant-in-aid hospital ;

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, the nature of the action taken by them on the same ;

(*f*) whether the ex-Director, Mr. Sankara Menon, has recommended the enhancement of grant to this Vaidyasala ; and

(*g*) whether the Department has given enhancement of grant to any other Vaidyasala which is junior to this Vaidyasala ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) 1102 M. E.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes ; one.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The recommendation could not be sanctioned for want of funds.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) Yes. Length of service is not the only criterion for giving enhancement of grant to Vaidyans.

Selection of " St. Antony of Padua " as a text-book.

241. ✻ **MR. M. MAHOMED HANEEF** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that " St. Antony of Padua ", a text-book prescribed for use in School Final Class, contains statements abusing the Holy Prophet Muhamad and Islam ;

(*b*) who is responsible for selection of this as a text-book ;

(*c*) whether they are aware that agitation is going on among the Muslim community regarding this book (St. Antony of Padua) ; and

(*d*) whether they have taken any action to remedy the wounded feelings of the Muslim community in this respect ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) :

(*a*) No ; there are, however, some passages in the book which may be considered objectionable by Muslims.

(*b*) The School Leaving Certificates Board.

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